

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Presently there is no extraction plant of Nickel from nickel ore in the country.

(b) As per National Mineral Inventory prepared by IBM as on 1.4.90, the total 294 MT of Nickel ore (0.5% to 0.9%) is estimated in the country.

(c) and (d) The value of nickel imported during the last 3 years are as follows :-

Year	Value in Rs. '000
1993-94	1395882
1994-95	2310533
1995-96 (Prov.)	2837925

(e) and (f) The Hindustan Zinc Ltd. with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have signed an MOU on 3rd September, 1996 for setting up a technology proving plant for extraction of nickel from the chromite over burden.

#### **Privatisation of Sukhinda Mines in Orissa**

5559. SHRI CHITTA BASU :  
SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mineral Development Corporation, Orissa has proposed to develop the chrome deposit in Sukhinda Mines, Orissa;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to privatise the said mines; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d) Mineral concessions are granted as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder. Any decision in the instant case has to be taken by the Government in accordance with the judgement dated 4.4.1995 of Hon'ble High Court of Orissa in O.J.C. Nos. 7729/93, 4701/94, 3825/94, 5422/94 and 7054/94 etc. and Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 23.7.1996 in S.L.P. Nos. 10838/95, 11391/95, 11392/92 etc.

[Translation]

#### **Temporary Accommodation for MPs**

5560. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the arrangements for the temporary accommodation for Members of Parliament made in Lodhi Hotel are not suitable for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the comparative profit of Lodhi Hotel in regard to the other hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The management of Lodhi Hotel is providing satisfactory services to the guests including Members of Parliament staying in the hotel and no written complaint has been received by the Hotel Management from the Members of Parliament of the eleventh Lok Sabha who have stayed/staying in this hotel.

(c) The profitability of Lodhi Hotel is not directly comparable with the other hotels of ITDC in Delhi due to its old structure and design and its three-star-category. Nonetheless Lodhi Hotel has shown a profit of Rs. 77.66 lakhs for the year 1995-96.

#### **Non-Utilisation of Amount**

5561. SHRI O.P. JINDAL :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for the rehabilitation of handicapped persons in rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total amount spent out of it so far;

(c) whether the Government have not spent any money from the amount during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to spend this amount on the rehabilitation of the handicapped before the Eighth Plan period is over; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?